

NEWS

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Applied Extrusion Technologies, Inc. awarded grant for innovative training program

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The Indiana Department of Workforce Development awarded a \$200,000 grant to Applied Extrusion Technologies, Inc. (AET) in Terre Haute. The Incumbent Worker Training Grant will help leverage \$1,137,500 in spending by AET on this project and will fund the implementation of an innovative training program that was developed in conjunction with Ivy Tech State College.

The computer-based program will train 325 employees onsite and will allow them to master each phase of production. Employees will become more proficient in their own area of responsibility and also gain a better understanding of the rest of the production process.

AET is a leading manufacturer of oriented polypropylene (OPP) films used primarily in consumer product labeling, flexible packaging, overwrap and industrial applications. Headquartered in New Castle, Delaware, the company has three production sites in North America, including the world's largest OPP films manufacturing facility located in Terre Haute. AET's highly specialized plastic films are used by companies including Coca Cola®, Pepsi-Cola®, Nabisco®, Kellogg's®, and Hershey Foods®.

"This grant will allow AET to address important training needs so that they can stay at the forefront of their field. In doubling the size of their Terre Haute operation since 1994, they have demonstrated their genuine commitment to Indiana. It is important that we demonstrate our own continued commitment to this firm and the quality jobs it provides for Hoosiers," said Alan Degner, Commissioner of Workforce Development.

Employees will be able to access the training program from computers throughout the plant site and advance through lessons at their own pace. Completion of this training will make participants eligible to receive a Certificate of Technical Achievement in Advanced Manufacturing – a certification that carries recognition throughout the manufacturing industry. This training and certification program will be an important part of the structure and processes which are needed to advance the film-making fundamentals, innovations, and versatility required to be successful in this global industry.

This Grant is a part of Indiana's Skills 2016 initiative, which is intended to give Indiana companies a competitive edge through a well-trained and adaptable workforce. For more information please visit this grant please visit the web site at www.in.gov/dwd/HB1962.html.